

**James Madison to Gov. Shelby, August 12, 1813.  
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ed. Gaillard Hunt. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons,  
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**TO ISAAC SHELBY.<sup>1</sup> MAD. MSS.**

1 Governor of Kentucky.

Montpelier, Aug. 12, 1813.

Dear Sir I recd. your favor of the 18th July a few days only before I left Washington, which was on the 9th instant. If any doubt had ever existed of the patriotism or bravery of the Citizens of Kentucky, it would have been turned into an admiration of both by the tests to which the war has put them. Nor could any who are acquainted with your history and character, wish the military services of your fellow Citizens to be under better direction than yours. How far a call on you and them, according to the provision made by your Legislature, will take place, must depend on the wants of Genl Harrison who will be regulated in his applications for succour by his own prospects on L. Erie, & by the operations on & below L. Ontario, which must have a considerable bearing on his. We do not despond tho' we ought not to be too sanguine, that the effect of our

naval preparations on the several Lakes, and the proper use of the forces assembled on & convenient to them, will soon relieve the distant militia & volunteers from much of the demands which the course of the war on our inland frontier has made on them. Should

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it happen otherwise it is consoling to know that such resorts exist as those to which your letter contains so favorable an example.